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CHILE://PRESIDENT PINOCHET'S DECISION LAST WEEK TO ABOLISH THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTORATE (DINA) APPEARS TO REPRESENT A GENUINE EFFORT TO CURTAIL HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND NOT JUST ANOTHER COSMETIC FIX. ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT'S ASSURANCES CANNOT ALWAYS BE TAKEN AT FACE VALUE, PINOCHET HAS BEEN UNDER STRONG PRESSURE FROM CIVILIAN AND MILITARY ADVISERS TO CLIP DINA'S WINGS.//

//THE NEW GUIDELINES SUGGEST THAT MOST OF DINA'S PERSONNEL

WILL BE ABSORBED BY A NATIONAL INFORMATION CENTER TO BE CREATED

UNDER THE INTERIOR MINISTRY. ADDITIONALLY, DINA'S ARREST AND

DETENTION POWERS ARE BEING TRANSFERRED RESPECTIVELY, TO THE NATIONAL

POLICE (CARABINEROS) AND TO THE JUDICIAL POLICE UNDER THE DEFENSE

MINISTRY. WHILE ILLEGAL ACTIVITY IS STILL POSSIBLE UNDER THIS

ARRANGEMENT, IT IS OUR JUDGMENT THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR REPRESSIVE

PRACTICES WILL BE GREATLY REDUCED://

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MARGIN FOR GE CHARACTERS TO A LINE INCLUDING STACES. DU NOT LATER THIS LIMITATION AGES ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE UNLESS A HIGHER PRECEDENCE IS INDICATED IN THE ALL PROSECT LINE TYPE THE WORD ALIGN TO REGISTER HERE - ALIGN FIRST LETTER IN THIS BOX. OUTGOING MESSAGE CONFIDENTIAL NOFORN INFO: FILE CONF: PER //-- THE NEW AGENCY APPARENTLY WILL NOT REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE 1.5C PRESIDENT:/ //--BOTH THE CARABINEROS AND THE JUDICIAL POLICE ARE HIGHLY REGARDED - PROFESSIONAL LAW-ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATIONS. PINOCHET IS NOW CONVINCED THAT THE MARXIST THREAT TO HIS REGIME HAS DIMINISHED SIGNIFICANTLY. //IF THE ORGANIZATION REPLACING DINA IS RESTRICTED SOLELY TO INFORMATION GATHERING--AND THE PRESIDENT FOLLOWS UP ON PLANS TO REDUCE THE STATE OF SIEGE AND LIFT THE CURFEW, BOTH OF WHICH HE CLAIMS ARE NOW BEING STUDIED--OTHER MOVES TO LIBERALIZE THE REGIME MAY BE POSSIBLE./

//THE DIRECTION TAKEN BY PINOCHET DURING THE PAST MONTH REFLECTS
AN AWARENESS THAT OTHER MILITARY GOVERNMENTS IN SOUTH AMERICA ARE
FORMULATING PLANS TO RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE. THE DEBATE STIMULATED
BY THIS TREND IS LIKELY TO SUSTAIN MOMENTUM FOR POLITICAL CHANGE
IN CHILE. MOST CHILEANS APPEAR TO BE GRATIFIED AND ENCOURAGED BY
SIGNS THAT THE MILITARY AT LAST IS MODIFYING THE MOST SEVERE ASPECTS
OF REPRESSION. EVEN FORMER PRESIDENT FREI, LEADER OF THE COUNTRY'S

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ALIGN FIRST LETTER IN THIS BOX. TYPE THE WORD ALIGN" TO REGISTER HERE -OUTGOING MESSAGE CONFIDENTIAL NOFORN CONF: INFO: FILE LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY AND A FERVENT CRITIC OF PINOCHETT ACKNOW-1.5C LEDGES THAT THE DISSOLUTION OF DINA MIGHT BE A FOSITIVE STEP./ //DESPITE OFFICIAL DISCLAIMERS TO THE CONTRARY, SANTIAGO HAS MADE SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONS TO MEET US RECOMMENDATIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IMPROVEMENTS. THIS LATEST SHIFT REFLECTS A DEEP-SEATED REALIZATION BY GOVERNMENT LEADERS THAT IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS WITH THE US DESERVES A HIGH PRIORITY IF CHILE IS TO MAKE ANY PROGRESS IN ENDING THE OPPROBRIUM OF WHICH IT HAS BEEN A TARGET SINCE THE MILITARY TAKEOVER IN 1973. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ABOLITION OF DINA DURING SECRETARY TODMAN'S VISIT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL PUBLICITY FOR THE CHANGE. 1.5C